



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

J. R. NEESER et al.

Application No.:

09/779;596

Group Art Unit: 1652

Filing Date: February 9, 2001

Examiner: K. Kerr

For:

INCORPORATION OF EXOGENOUS

LACTIC BACTERIA INTO THE ORAL

MICROFLORA

Attorney Docket No.: 88265-406

MENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents PO Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed December 18, 2002, Applicants submit the following amendments and remarks for entry into the above-identified application.

The Specification has been amended as shown on the following page.

Claim 28 has been amended as shown on the following pages. Claims 2 and 5 have been canceled with claim 5 rewritten in independent form as new claim 29.

A new abstract is provided on a separate page.

A petition to extend the time for responding, with fee authorization, is submitted herewith.

No fee is believed to be due for the claim changes of this submission. Should any fees be due, please charge such fees to Winston & Strawn Deposit Account No. 501-814.